

DEATH WAS MET IN A PANIC

MANY PERSONS CRUSHED AND
TRAMPLED ON IN A THEATER.

A leak in a gas pipe and the excitement that followed it resulted in great loss of life—strong men acted like wild beasts—a wild fight took place for several minutes.

Baltimore, Dec. 27.—Twenty-three persons were crushed and trampled to death in a panic at Front street theater last night. Several others were injured, some of whom will die.

The United States Opera and Dramatic company of Boston, under the management of A. Schenckel and Abram Tannenbaum, was billed to present the Jewish opera "Alexander" and the theater was filled with a motley throng. About twenty-five hundred persons were in the house when the orchestra began playing the introductory.

A strong odor of gas was noticed in the second gallery of the theater and one of the attendants of the place was seen hunting for the leak with a lighted torch. Suddenly a jet of flame flashed out as the torch came in contact with the punctured gas pipe.

A cry of "fire" was heard in the upper galleries, and in an instant the excitement became intense. Some one rushed to the gas meter and turned off the supply, plunging the main body of the house into darkness. The stage lights alone remained lit, being fed through another meter.

Instead of allaying the excitement caused by the sheet of flame from the leaking pipe, the turning off of the gas and consequent darkness only served to add to the confusion. The audience, as a mass, made a mad rush for the exits. The actors ran down to the footlights and shouted "sit down, there's no danger," but the excited throng paid no heed to the advice and continued its wild scramble for the doors.

The gas was quickly turned on at the meter, and as the theater again became illuminated an indescribable scene of horror was presented. Men, women and children, crazed by fear, were fighting and struggling in the aisles and on the stairways in their efforts to reach the open air. The actors on the stage and a few cool heads in the audience added to the turmoil by shouting "sit down," and cursing those who were most vigorous in their efforts to get out.

The struggling mass of humanity made little or no headway for a few minutes, every aisle was congested and every doorway jammed with the frantic Poles and Russians who mainly composed the throng.

Strong men in the rear of the panic-stricken mob climbed upon the shoulders of those in front, crushing the weak—men, women and little ones to the floor, to be trampled to death by those still further in the rear. For several minutes the wild fight continued. Then a few policemen forced a passage to the main entrance and began dragging forth those who were jammed in the doors. A rushing stream of humanity flowed out on Front street, until all those who were able to move reached the open air. A hurry call for policemen had brought a large squad to the theater by this time, and a fire alarm had also been sent in bringing some engines on the scene.

The excitement in the street was almost as great as in the theater, as relatives began searching for those from whom they had become separated. Fathers and mothers rushed about looking for their children and attempted to re-enter the theater in their search for the missing ones.

The crowd grew so great that the police, fearing a riot, ordered the fire engine hose to be turned on, and in that way the struggling mass was driven back from the theater entrance.

Meanwhile officers had entered the theater and encountered a sickening sight. In every direction were found bodies from which life had been crushed and trampled. A majority of the victims were young men, girls and children.

They were tenderly carried to the front of the house and taken to the City hospital and morgue as fast as the ambulances and patrol wagons could make the trips. Great crowds followed the ambulances and patrol wagons and stormed the entrances to the hospital and morgue in their anxiety to learn if their relatives or friends were among the injured or dead.

Twenty-three dead bodies were finally taken from the theater.

Ten persons more or less injured are at the City hospital and two may die. Several others were taken to their homes in carriages suffering from contusions or broken bones.

At a late hour to-night fourteen of the dead had been identified.

FORCED TO THE WALL.

Large Kentucky Tobacco Man Made an Assignment.

L. Kingston, Ky., Dec. 27.—On account of the recent order from England to tobacco agents here to cease buying the Kentucky product, and the decline in the prices caused by the warfare between manufacturers, Leslie Combs of this county, the largest tobacco planter in the world, today made an assignment. The liabilities are \$300,000. Among the assets are 70,000 pounds of tobacco and nearly one thousand acres of land.

Mr. Combs is a son-in-law of the well known retired thoroughbred breeder, Daniel Swiger, who backed him heavily. Mr. Swiger and his son, Robert A. Swiger, also assigned today. Mr. Swiger is a stockholder in the 18th Electric line, the electric light works and the Hercules for company, but it is not believed that his failure will injure these enterprises seriously.

TARIFF IN THE SENATE.

There is no indication that its passage will be impeded.

Washington, Dec. 27.—The progress of the tariff bill will not be impeded in the senate. It was reported to the committee on finance today and subsequently several amendments of that committee were in conference with Mr. Sherman and other leaders discussing the democratic policy in dealing with the measure. It was widely understood among those senators that there should be no unreasonable time consumed either in committee or on the floor of the senate. It is believed the debate in the senate will be much less than has been anticipated, and that the democratic after they have stated their positions will permit the bill to come to a vote. The prediction is made, however, by leading democrats, that the bill as it came from the house cannot pass the senate.

Mr. Voorhees has issued a call for a meeting of the finance committee next Tuesday. Mr. Voorhees believes the bill will be considered promptly in committee and reported to the senate as expeditiously as possible. No member of the finance committee is willing to predict whether or not the bill will be amended in the senate committee.

TO RELIEVE THE TREASURY.

The Smith bill has been introduced into the house.

Washington, Dec. 27.—The William Alden Smith bill to relieve the treasury from the menace now threatening it by the presentation of United States notes, called greenbacks and treasury notes, was introduced by the Michigan member in the house today. The measure was submitted by Mr. Smith to the speaker, Mr. Sherman, who pronounced it meritorious in affording the relief to the treasury.

The bill amends section 5139 of the revised statutes and provides that every national banking association in Albany, Baltimore, Boston, Cincinnati, Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Louisville, Milwaukee, New Orleans, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, San Francisco and Washington shall at all times have on hand in United States notes and treasury notes an amount equal to at least 25 per centum of the aggregate amount of its notes in circulation and of its deposits, and every other association (banking) shall at all times have on hand in United States notes and treasury notes an amount equal to at least 15 per centum of the aggregate amount of its notes in circulation and of its deposits.

When any association's amount of United States notes falls below its due proportion such association shall not increase its liabilities by making any new loans or discounts otherwise than by discounting or purchasing bills of exchange payable at sight, nor make any dividends of its profits until the required proportion has been restored.

The comptroller of the currency may enforce any association whose notes and treasury notes shall be below the amount required to make good such reserves, and if such association fails for thirty days thereafter to make good its reserves, the comptroller may with the concurrence of the secretary of the treasury appoint a receiver to wind up the association.

THE COUNCILMAN BANQUET.

Very Pleasant Affair at Heublein's Cafe Last Night.

The board of councilmen for 1895 held a banquet at Heublein's last night, and all but six members were present. Assistant City Clerk Street and City Sheriff Bunce attended as invited guests. Mayor Heublein, who was also included among the invited guests, was unable to be present, owing to a previous engagement, and the toast, "City of New Haven" assigned to him was responded to by Alderman J. H. Macdonald, president of the board of aldermen. Of the five members absent Councilman W. G. Peck of the Fifth ward, who was among them, was unable to attend, being sick; Mr. J. H. Macdonald, president of the board, who was among them, was unable to attend, being sick; Mr. J. H. Macdonald, president of the board, who was among them, was unable to attend, being sick.

George T. White, of G. F. Heublein & Bros., personally directed the service at the tables, and the dinner which he served was endorsed by everyone present. The program of the evening contained some interesting features. President Nicol received the gavel, which was presented by Joseph H. Ullman, and the former responded in a brilliant speech. Councilman James D. Dowell answered to the toast "Our Little Side Doors."

Democrats in Conference.

Washington, Dec. 27.—The democrats of the senate held a conference this morning to consider the report of the steering committee. So far as completed the work of the committee was endorsed, but a number of vacancies still remain to be filled and the committee was directed to arrange these and hand the list to the republican committee without any further party cautions.

FINANCE WAS DISCUSSED.

Washington, Dec. 27.—All members were present at today's cabinet meeting, with a few exceptions. Secretary Olney was at the white house early in the morning and Mr. Carlisle was in conference with the president for an hour. It is understood that aside from routine matters finance was the main topic discussed. The cabinet approved Secretary Herbert's suggestion to name battleship No. 6 Kentucky.

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STABBED IN THE ABDOMEN

TWO ITALIAN LADS GET INTO A
QUARREL AT SARGENT'S.

The Trouble Arose Over Whose Duty It Was to Do Certain Work—The Assaultant Left the Shop Right After the Dead—A Warrent Issued for His Arrest—A Little Deeper and the Wound Might Have Been Fatal.

Dominick Rock and John Bonella are two Italian boys. They are employed at Sargent & Co's. Yesterday afternoon about 3:30 o'clock they got into a quarrel, and as a result Bonella was stabbed in the body just over the abdominal cavity. The weapon with which the wound was inflicted was a knife with a long blade, and had the steel penetrated a thirty-second of an inch further it might have killed the boy.

As soon as the deed was committed Rock left the shop. Bonella did not know enough back of it to send it to the police headquarters. The statement of the facts of the case to Sergeant Cooker, who is out of sympathy for boys who get into a quarrel, was made by Dr. Gaynor. The latter looked at the wound and pronounced it in a most dangerous location, and stated that had it been but the slightest bit deeper it would have been fatal. As it was no evil results were anticipated, provided the boy kept quiet. Any vigorous work was likely to tear away the thin tissue intervening between the stomach and the wound.

The assaultant evidently intended to kill his victim, as the knife blade had gone through several thicknesses of clothing. Rock lives on Fair street, and a warrant was immediately issued for his arrest. Bonella lives at 23 Oak street. Neither of the boys is over sixteen years of age. They are working under Contractor Griffin. Their quarrel was over some work which Rock wanted Bonella to do. The latter refused on the ground that his boss had told him that the work in question belonged to Rock. This angered Rock, and without a word he seized the knife and plunged it into Bonella's abdomen.

The contractor was not in sight at the time, and none of the workmen saw the affair in season to prevent the stabbing. Rock is said to have been a pretty good boy before the outbreak of temper. Up to a late hour last night he had not been apprehended.

DR. CREMIN FROM CEREBRAL HEMORRHAGE.

Consultation of Physicians Held Yesterday—Sudden Death of a Nurse.

Dr. Cremin is very dangerously ill at his residence, 129 Olive street, this city, suffering from cerebral hemorrhage, he having been ill for several weeks past. His condition was not, however, particularly alarming until Thursday, when it was such as to cause considerable alarm to his relatives and friends. At 8 o'clock Thursday evening he became unconscious, and up to early this morning had not yet rallied from that state. Dr. Russell has been attending Dr. Cremin, and yesterday morning Dr. Bacon and O'Connor were called to consult with him. Dr. Cremin of New Britain, a brother of the sick man, is staying with him, and said late last night that the chances were of such a nature that it was impossible to say what turn it might suddenly take; the doctor might pass away during the night, and yet might last on their day or two, but his condition is extremely critical, and little hopes are entertained for his recovery.

THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY.

Of the Organization of Howard Avenue Congregational Church.

The thirtieth anniversary exercises of the organization of the Howard avenue Congregational church will be celebrated to-morrow. In the morning the pastor will preach the anniversary sermon. In the evening the exercises will consist of addresses by ex-Judge R. S. Pickett, J. W. Townsend, M. A. Burdick, Charles B. Foote, and Willis N. Burdick.

On Tuesday evening, December 31, there will be held a consecration meeting and roll call. Following this there will be a social gathering to which all are cordially invited to remain. Next Tuesday evening—New Year's eve—should be the greatest social reunion which the church has experienced in five years. The first half of the evening will be given to brief words of testimony and resolution. The second half of the evening will be devoted to more informal social intercourse.

GIFT TO LIEUTENANT BOSTWICK.

Presented by the Chathamites.

An elegant cut glass cracker bowl and wine glass decanter was last evening presented to Lieut. Bostwick, commanding the fourth platoon of the Second company, Governor's Foot Guard, at the Foot Guard's armory. On the decanter was fixed a silver plate with the date of the presentation and other details. The fourth platoon occupied the same car "The Chathamite" on the trip to Atlanta, and it really was on behalf of the Chathamites that the gift was made. Arthur Perkins made the presentation speech. Refreshments were served, and a jolly evening was spent.

THE GOLD RESERVE.

Washington, Dec. 27.—The treasury gold reserve at the close of business today with all withdrawals and credits at \$62,588,120. The amount of gold reported withdrawn at New York for export today was \$2,000,000 and \$14,000,000 in exchange for currency for domestic use.

THE MILLS MEETINGS.

The District Visitors Now Under Appointment—Meet at English Hall Sunday Afternoon—20,000 Copies of Invitation to be Personally Distributed During the Coming Week.

The arrangements are now fully completed by the canvassing committee, of the Mills meetings for visitors from about thirty churches and missions in New Haven to come every family in the city during the coming week (either a personal or printed invitation to these meetings, which will commence on Monday of the week after.

This committee, of which Rev. Mr. Muesman is the chairman, desires to meet all the visitors and district chairman once more before the work begins, for prayer and conference and final instructions, at English Hall, corner of Court and State streets, to-morrow (Sunday) at 3:30 p. m.

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THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

Business Transacted at Last Night's Meeting.

At the meeting of the board of education last evening all the members were present except Messrs. Comer and Stockford. The following recommendations were presented by the committee on schools: That Mrs. Hopkins D. Crosby be placed in charge of room 8 Strong school at a salary of the rate of \$850 per year to take the place of W. C. DeP. Dickerman, whose term of service closed with the expiration of last term, the new appointment to date from the beginning of the next term; that Mrs. Evelyn V. Rockwell be transferred from the substitute list to the position of assistant teacher in room 1 Strong school at the same salary as the former position; that Miss Mary J. O'Malley be transferred from the substitute list to the position of extra teacher in Welsh district; that A. O. Abbott be continued as principal of Strong school for the remainder of the present year at the same salary; that the following be inserted in the rules of the board after the first paragraph of section 138, "Any child who has been exposed to any one of the following diseases shall not be permitted to return to school for at least two weeks after the last exposure and the mother shall be notified of such exposure by the health officer; also that the rules recommended by the board of health July 15, 1895, and adopted by the board be amended to read as follows: "Children may return to school in cases of scarlet fever, after nine days, diphtheria after twenty-eight days, typhoid fever after twenty-eight days, measles after twenty-seven days. In each case the number of days refers to the time after the appearance of the disease and not recovery from it. In case of scarlet fever and diphtheria the child must remain out of school until the child is free from the health officer's certificate as provided in the first of this section; that the leave of absence of Miss Anna M. Brennan of the Skinner school be extended to April 1, 1896. The rule in regard to amendment of the rules was amended and the resolution relating to contagious diseases was adopted. The diseases referred to in section 138 are: smallpox, scarlet fever, diphtheria, membranous croup, and typhoid fever. The other recommendations were adopted.

The building committee recommended that some change be made in the heating apparatus of Edwards street school and also that new steam pipes be put in the basement of Welsh school for the benefit of the kindergarten. Both recommendations were adopted and the committee was empowered to make the necessary alterations. The committee also asked for the opinion of the board regarding the licensing of saloons within 200 feet of school houses. The matter was discussed at length and it was finally voted that the secretary of the board be instructed to request the excise commissioners to notify the board of education of all licenses asked for saloons within 200 feet of schools. The general idea of the board was that nothing should be done by it to influence the commissioners in refusing a license to a business already established within the limit, but that applications for new licenses within the limits should be properly investigated by the board.

The committee on special instruction recommended that "Modern French Lyrics" be adopted in the high school as a study of this text is necessary for college entrance requirements, and also that Miss Emma A. Terrill be appointed as teacher in the high evening school at a compensation of \$150 per evening. It was voted that as soon as the notifications of application for licenses as per the previous vote, were presented to the board, they should be referred to the building committee.

The regular business having been disposed of the matter of electing a secretary of the board for the ensuing year was brought up and on motion of Mr. Moran it was voted that the president of the board be instructed to call the unanimous vote of the board for Mr. Day, the present secretary. Mr. Day has been connected with the board of education for thirty-three years. Five years ago he was elected to the position and is a member of the board, and twenty-seven years as clerk of the board. He began his duties in connection with the board in 1859 and has always proved an exceedingly efficient official. He is preparing a history of New Haven schools, covering a period of 200 years.

Anthony Curroll attended last night's meeting and was distributing of tickets to his lecture to the members of the board.

FIND FROM THE CITY.

London, Dec. 28.—A dispatch from Constantinople says a 25-ton boiler of the Argemians in Zeytinli had been in the city before it was destroyed by the Turks. These 25-ton boiler reached Kilia in Haido, where the Turks had made an attack upon them. The dispatch adds the boiler of Zeytinli was due to the strength of the Turkish artillery.

BOARD ADJOURNS SINE DIE

HACK ORDINANCE GOES OVER TO
INCOMING COMMON COUNCIL.

There was a slight irregularity in an Amendment Made by the Councilmen—A Committee Appointed to Arrange for a Banquet to be Held Next Tuesday Night—Thanks Extended to the Reporters and Others.

The closing session of the board of aldermen for 1895 was held last night at 7 o'clock after a special session lasting a little short of forty minutes. But very little business was transacted. The hack ordinance again came up. The amendment offered by the councilmen changing the fifty feet boundary in the western part of the city to Ellsworth avenue instead of North street was not concurred in. Ellsworth avenue and George street was mentioned as the extreme point of the boundary, and Alderman Blakeley called attention to the fact that the 50 feet junction of the two thoroughfares, for Ellsworth avenue terminated at Dooly avenue.

In view of this the aldermen could not properly concur with the lower board. Alderman Macdonald suggested that in order to get the ordinance properly passed another meeting of the councilmen be called.

Mayor Hendrick stated that the board had adjourned sine die and he did not think the matter important enough to call the members together again. The aldermen then voted to adhere to its former action in the matter as the best way out of the difficulty. This slight mistake of the councilmen kills the hack ordinance for this year, and it will have to be recommended and passed upon by the common council of next year before it becomes a regular by-law. This was the last business pertaining to the city that the aldermen transacted.

Alderman Keyes put the motion to adjourn, but he withdrew it at the request of Alderman Macdonald, who offered a vote thanking the mayor for the courteous and impartial manner in which he had presided over the sessions of the board. The vote was passed unanimously and Mayor Hendrick in return said: "I am obliged to you for this compliment. I did not expect it. I wish to congratulate the board of aldermen on the completion of all the business that has come before it this year and hope that nothing serious will happen which will necessitate calling you to another again. I am pleased to say to you that at all our meetings we have not been short a quorum. The sheriff has never been required to enforce the laws in this respect and I present this fact to you with feeling akin to joy. I wish also to thank the various committees for their faithful and arduous work over the many matters that have been referred to them. I thank you again for your kindness and the reports for their faithful reports of the meetings, and also the city clerk. I wish you all a Happy New Year."

The board also extended a vote of thanks to the reporters, city clerk, sheriff, page and janitor.

The question of a banquet was considered. Alderman Simbora proposed it and a banquet was unanimously agreed upon. Next Tuesday night was fixed as the time and Alderman Simbora, Wild and Benjamin were appointed a committee to make arrangements. Alderman Blakeley, Moran and Hamilton were appointed as a committee to make preparations for the taking of the pictures of the aldermen.

SECOND DAY'S SESSION.

The Modern Language Association Meeting—Several Interesting Papers—Newly Registered Members—Reception Tendered by President and Mrs. Dwight.

The second day's session of the meeting of the Modern Language association of America, convened in Osborn hall yesterday with an attendance somewhat increased over the day before. During the day several papers were read by distinguished scholars from various universities throughout the country, and all were extremely learned dissertations on literature, and subjects of especial interest to the professors and instructors present. Among the papers was one by Prof. H. R. Laing, of the French department of Yale, on "The Etymology of Preterit Extra and Old French Genre," and one by Miss M. A. Harris of Yale university on "Love in So Paulo Writings of the Elizabethan Period and of the Nineteenth Century: A Comparative Study." Both papers were fine, and showed a deep study of the matters of which they treated.

Last evening President and Mrs. Dwight tendered a reception to the members of the association at their residence, 126 College street.

Those members who registered yesterday with the secretary were: George Henkel, University of Michigan; Homer Smith, University of Pennsylvania; A. B. Barrett, Baltimore, Md.; A. S. Burt, Baltimore, Md.; J. A. Dorian, South Amherst, Mass.; Andrew Ingraham, New Bedford, Mass.; O. G. Russell, New Haven, Conn.; W. S. Cross, New Haven; W. G. Hayward, Cambridge, Mass.; A. C. Ramsey, Washington, D. C.; Alfred Gudmundson, Philadelphia, Pa.; H. A. Todd, New York; William Humphreys, Princeton; Hippolyte Gruener, Cleveland, O.; Henry Johnson, Brunswick, Ill.; H. S. White, Atlanta, Ga.; C. E. Kayser, Newark, N. J.

STATUE UNVEILED.

A statue of St. John was unveiled and blessed at St. John's R. C. church last evening by Bishop Tierney. The consecration exercises were presided by a solemn vesper and a sermon by Rev. James Coyne of Newport, R. I., a cousin of the pastor of St. John's church.

The statue has been imported from Italy at considerable expense. It will stand at the gospel side of the high altar, opposite the statue of the Sacred Heart, which was recently placed at the opposite side. This statue was also imported by the Rev. Father Coyne, the pastor.

In the meantime the older daughter had started bravely after her little sister. She came upon the strange man just over the city line. She shouted after her sister and after some little time saw the child jump from the wagon. They hastened to each other and soon were running home. Before they had gone very far they met Patrolman Colwell on horseback and a moment later Officers Conney and Marlow loomed into sight. Patrolman Colwell accompanied the sisters home and the two other policemen started after the man. They overtook him and placed him under arrest.

At the Howard avenue station he gave his name as James Flannagan and he is employed as a driver by Frederick M. Smith, the grain and hay merchant at 290 Congress avenue. Later in the day Mr. Smith furnished a bond of \$200 for Flannagan's release. The simple charge of breach of the peace was preferred against the man which may be changed to one of a more serious nature this morning.

The child stated that she was bound to the seat by a rope and so told her mother. Whatever Flannagan's object was he would not divulge it to the police, but the matter will be sifted in the city court this morning.

FAIR HAVEN.

A Praise Service To-morrow Evening—Charity Entertainment at Central Hall—Family Reunion—Christmas Joy for Children.

A Christmas praise service will be given at the Grand avenue Baptist church to-morrow evening. The double quartet choir of the church, under the direction of the leader, H. H. Palmer, will be assisted by Mrs. Emma Allen Hull, contralto. A feature of the choir music will be a rendition of a descriptive carol-anthem composed by Sir Joseph Barnby, entitled "The First Christmas." This is in four parts, as follows: The Annunciation, the Message to the Shepherds, Cradle Song of the Mother of Jesus, and Gloria in Excelsis. The full program of choir music is as follows: There was Silence in Bethlehem's Fields, Sir John Stainer; The Star of Bethlehem, G. W. Marston; offertory, A Prince of Peace (E. A. Farquhar); Mrs. Emma Allen Hull; The First Christmas, Sir Joseph Barnby; The Christ Child (C. Whitney Coombs); Miss Edith Dwyer.

The charity entertainment to be given in Central hall next Monday promises to be an excellent entertainment. The attractions will be the Samell Hand club, eighteen pieces; Miss Ursula Penfold Palmer, elocutionist; Miss Margaret Smith, vocalist; Y. M. C. A. solo quartet; recitations by Miss Mabel G. Hart and Miss E. L. Hart.

The high wind yesterday morning demolished one of the chimneys on Henry Fabrique's house on Center street.

The Richards family held a reunion at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Richards, Steven's heights, West Haven, on Christmas day. Four generations were represented, the oldest person present being Mrs. Rosanna Scott, who is eighty-seven years of age.

There was also a reunion of the Francis family at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles O. Francis of Grand avenue. Seventeen of the family were present.

The Christmas entertainment for the Sunday school was held in the Grand avenue Baptist church Thursday. A Christmas cantata, "Santa Claus on Time," was given, and those participating were: Santa Claus (in costume), Emily Smith; Vivian, Mabel Leigh; Pearl, Jennie Myers; Lorna, Florence Seibert; Zora, Alice Hauspacher; May, Gertrude Amman; Nell, Edith Powley; Miss Ella Jackson; Yashin, Sadie Smith; Zora, Ernie Smith; superintendent, F. B. Smith; teacher, Lena Smith; the choir, Ethel Thompson, Florence Strong, Lillie Hayes. The grumblers and the tinklers were George Loveland, Bert French, Eugene Jeffers. On the platform was a representation of a kitchen scene and fireplace, the whole lighted with candles. The church was also decorated with Christmas greens. There was a large distribution of gifts from teachers to the members of their classes and also verses. It was an excellent entertainment and its success is due mainly to the efforts of Miss Marion Preston and Miss Lillian Ammon.

The Christmas cantata given for the Sunday school of the Grand avenue Congregational church was repeated for the older people Thursday evening. There was a large attendance, and the program was excellently rendered throughout.

Mrs. Nuttall will give an address on narcotics at the W. C. T. U. rooms Fair Haven, Sunday, December 29, 3 p. m. Boys and men are especially invited. On New Year's on all day and evening reception will be held. There will be speaking and singing. Children's rally at 3 p. m. Former members and all interested in temperance are earnestly requested to be present. An address and solos in the evening.

A CHILD'S STRANGE RIDE.

Was Taken From the Street and Driven Away.

The eight-year-old daughter of Mrs. Charles Walsh of 555 Columbus avenue had an exciting experience yesterday afternoon. The child was playing in the street not far from her home when a man jumped from a wagon and grasping her in his arms regained his team and drove at a high rate of speed toward Alington.

An older daughter, who happened to be near at hand, saw the affair and hastened into the house and informed her mother. Without the least delay the latter hurried to the Howard avenue police precinct and explained the matter to the officer in charge. To her it looked like a case of abduction. Officers Conney and Marlow were detailed to follow the man. They secured a horse and started out.

In the meantime the older daughter had started bravely after her little sister. She came upon the strange man just over the city line. She shouted after her sister and after some little time saw the child jump from the wagon. They hastened to each other and soon were running home. Before they had gone very far they met Patrolman Colwell on horseback and a moment later Officers Conney and Marlow loomed into sight. Patrolman Colwell accompanied the sisters home and the two other policemen started after the man. They overtook him and placed him under arrest.

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THE CONDITION OF TRADE

ANTICIPATIONS EARLY IN THE
YEAR FOR TRADE ARE HOPEFUL.

Bradstreet's Has a Partially Confident Feeling That Business in a Short Time Will be Good—Grain is Moving Very Freely—Fractional Reactions Are Reported.

New York, Dec. 27.—Bradstreet's to-morrow will say:

As is the rule in Christmas week, wholesale trade has been quiet. The holidays, the close of the year and the stock taking tend to make business slow and promise to make only a light trade until late in January. At various cities, notably New York, Boston, Baltimore and Chicago, anticipation as to the character of trade early in the coming year are hopeful, but it remains to be seen whether the downward movement of demand and prices and the delay in putting the currency on a sound basis, all of which have begun to show themselves in trade conditions will permit of as early and marked gains in staples in 1896 as has been confidently anticipated. The week's features in commercial lines are a rather better trade in Christmas specialties than expected, a check to business at the west from long continued rains, extremely light stocks of goods in hands of retailers, the strength of wool and expectation of holders that it will advance should the proposed duty be placed on it (together with the pronounced movement of funds from the west, not only to pay interest, but because of the better demand for currency at larger financial centers. Grain is moving more freely in the state of Washington as well as in the nearby northwest, where lack of snow is felt by nearby lumbermen. Wheat has continued to go from the Pacific coast to Australia.

Most industries report business quiet. Eastern dress goods woolen mills are fairly supplied with orders, but some of the Philadelphia mills have shut down for a short time. Shoe manufacturers report buyers are taking very little interest, but increased strength in hides makes them relatively confident. The prices movement is more favorable for a few weeks, the quotations for coke having been advanced, as well as those of mohair, wheat, Indian corn, oats and for sugar, while for leather, hides and lumber, coal, wool, coffee and print cloths quotations are unchanged.

Fractional reactions are reported in prices of refined petroleum, cotton, pork, flour, iron and steel. Exports of wheat, flour included as such, from both coasts of the United States, this week, amount to 3,547,000 bushels, compared with 1,814,000 bushels in the corresponding week of a year ago. This week's foreign shipments of wheat (flour included) are the largest since the third week of January last.

Clothing totals are favorable—the aggregate, while it is 3.5 per cent. less than last week, a remarkably small falling off when the Christmas interruption is recalled, shows an increase of fully 36 per cent. over Christmas week in 1894 and of 47 per cent. over 1893.

Business failures in the country for a completed year number 13,013, an increase of more than 2 per cent., notwithstanding the excellent second year following a panic in which it is usual for the number of failures to decline. The percentage of assets to liabilities has risen from 53 per cent. a year ago to nearly 56 per cent., as contrasted with 65 per cent. in 1893. The liabilities this year aggregated \$158,842,445 and the actual assets \$88,115,520. The number of failures in New England were 1,686 against 1,784 in 1894; the liabilities \$19,914,155 against \$18,790,018 in 1894 and the assets \$9,902,344 against \$7,826,281 in 1894.